

Attorney Docket No. 0023.0017
Application No.: 10/693,082
Reply to Office Action filed May 18, 2006

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn) A butterfly needle assembly comprising:
a needle having a needle hub;
a locking means integral with said needle hub having a tab protruding radially from said needle hub; and
a shield with a distal end and a proximal end having integral wings and a dorsal track extending axially along said shield;
wherein said tab extends through said dorsal track such that when in operation as said needle moves through said shield, the tab travels along the dorsal track to engage a cut-out at the distal end of said dorsal track thereby locking the needle within said shield.
2. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said shield has a thumb rest on said proximal end.
3. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a butterfly.
4. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a moth.
5. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings resemble an animal.
6. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings resemble a flower.
7. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings resemble a prehistoric creature.

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8. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings resemble a cartoon character.

9. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings resemble a holiday novelty.

10. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings have folded adhesive tabs on the underside of said integral wings.

11. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said integral wings have adhesive tape on the underside of said integral wings.

12. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein a mechanism facilitates reciprocal movement of said needle with said shield.

13. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said needle irreversibly locks within said shield.

14. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 1, wherein said shield has a flexible portion axially displaced from both said proximal and said distal end.

15. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a butterfly.

16. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a moth.

17. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings resemble an animal.

18. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings resemble a flower.

19. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings resemble a prehistoric creature.

20. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings resemble a cartoon character.

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21. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings resemble a holiday novelty.

22. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings have folded adhesive tabs on the underside of said integral wings.

23. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said integral wings have adhesive tape on the underside of said integral wings.

24. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein a mechanism facilitates reciprocal movement of said needle with said shield.

25. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said needle irreversibly locks within said shield.

26. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 2, wherein said shield has a flexible portion axially displaced from both said proximal and said distal end.

27. (Withdrawn) A butterfly needle comprising:
a needle having a needle hub;
wherein said needle hub has a pair of wings extending therefrom and said wings are aesthetically decorated.

28. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle of claim 27, wherein said wings resemble wings of a butterfly.

29. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle of claim 27, wherein said wings resemble wings of a moth.

30. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle of claim 27, wherein said wings resemble an animal.

31. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle of claim 27, wherein said wings resemble a flower.

32. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle of claim 27, wherein said wings resemble a prehistoric creature.

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33. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle of claim 27, wherein said wings resemble a cartoon character.

34. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle of claim 27, wherein said wings resemble a holiday novelty.

35. (Original) A butterfly needle assembly comprising:

a needle having a needle hub with integral wings extending radially from said needle hub;

a locking means integral with said needle hub having a tab protruding radially from said needle hub in a plane perpendicular to said integral wings; and

a shield with a distal end and a proximal end and a dorsal track extending axially along said shield and said shield further having side tracks;

wherein said tab extends through said dorsal track and said integral wings extend through said side tracks such that when in operation as said needle moves through said shield, the tab travels along the dorsal track to engage a cut-out at the distal end of said dorsal track thereby locking the needle within said shield.

36. (Original) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said shield has a thumb rest on said proximal end.

37. (Original) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a butterfly.

38. (Original) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a moth.

39. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings resemble an animal.

40. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings resemble a flower.

41. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings resemble a prehistoric creature.

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42. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings resemble a cartoon character.

43. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings resemble a holiday novelty.

44. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings have folded adhesive tabs on the underside of said integral wings.

45. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said integral wings have adhesive tape on the underside of said integral wings.

46. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein a mechanism facilitates reciprocal movement of said needle with said shield.

47. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said needle irreversibly locks within said shield.

48. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 35, wherein said shield has a flexible portion axially displaced from both said proximal and said distal end.

49. (Original) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a butterfly.

50. (Original) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings resemble wings of a moth.

51. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings resemble an animal.

52. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings resemble a flower.

53. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings resemble a prehistoric creature.

54. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings resemble a cartoon character.

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55. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings resemble a holiday novelty.

56. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings have folded adhesive tabs on the underside of said integral wings.

57. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said integral wings have adhesive tape on the underside of said integral wings.

58. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein a mechanism facilitates reciprocal movement of said needle with said shield.

59. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said needle irreversibly locks within said shield.

60. (Withdrawn) The butterfly needle assembly of claim 36, wherein said shield has a flexible portion axially displaced from both said proximal and said distal end.